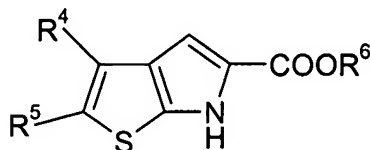


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a compound of formula (I)



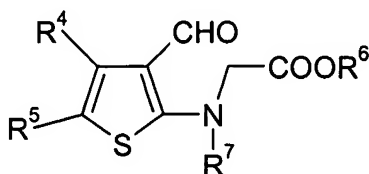
(I)

wherein

$R^4$  and  $R^5$  are independently selected from hydrogen, halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, ureido,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $C_{2-6}$ alkenyl,  $C_{2-6}$ alkynyl,  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxy,  $C_{1-6}$ alkanoyl,  $C_{1-6}$ alkanoyloxy,  $N$ -( $C_{1-6}$ alkyl)amino,  $N,N$ -( $C_{1-6}$ alkyl) $_2$ amino,  $C_{1-6}$ alkanoylamino,  $N$ -( $C_{1-6}$ alkyl)carbamoyl,  $N,N$ -( $C_{1-6}$ alkyl) $_2$ carbamoyl,  $C_{1-6}$ alkylS(O) $_a$  wherein  $a$  is 0 to 2,  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxycarbonyl,  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxycarbonylamino,  $N$ -( $C_{1-6}$ alkyl)sulphamoyl,  $N,N$ -( $C_{1-6}$ alkyl) $_2$ sulphamoyl,  $C_{1-6}$ alkylsulphonylamino, and  $C_{1-6}$ alkylsulphonyl- $N$ -( $C_{1-6}$ alkyl)amino; and

$R^6$  is hydrogen or a protecting group,

which process comprises cyclisation of a compound of formula (II)



(II)

wherein

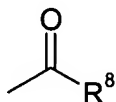
$R^4$ ,  $R^5$ , and  $R^6$  are as defined in relation to formula (I); and

$R^7$  is a nitrogen protecting group[[,]]; and

removing protecting group  $R^7$ , and thereafter if desired or necessary, removing any protecting group  $R^6$  to obtain the corresponding carboxylic acid.

2. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the protecting group  $R^7$  is removed during the ~~same reaction step as the cyclisation.~~

3. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1, ~~or claim 2~~ wherein in a structure of formula (II),  $R^7$  is a groups of sub-formula (i)



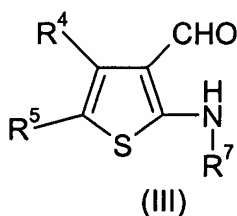
(i)

wherein  $R^8$  is a straight chain alkyl group of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

4. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any one of the preceding claims 1~~, wherein  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  are independently selected from hydrogen, halo, nitro, cyano, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, carboxy, carbamoyl, sulphamoyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl,  $C_{2-4}$ alkenyl,  $C_{2-4}$ alkynyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy,  $C_{1-4}$ alkanoyl, and  $C_{1-4}$ alkanoyloxy.

5. (Original) A compound of formula (II) as defined in claim 1.

6. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a compound according to claim 5, which comprises reacting a compound of formula (III)

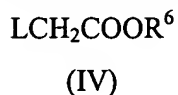


(III)

wherein

~~$R^4$ ,  $R^5$  are as defined in claim 1,  $R^6$  and  $R^7$  are as defined in claim 1~~  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  are independently selected from hydrogen, halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, ureido,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $C_{2-6}$ alkenyl,  $C_{2-6}$ alkynyl,  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxy,  $C_{1-6}$ alkanoyl,  $C_{1-6}$ alkanoyloxy,  $N$ -( $C_{1-6}$ alkyl)amino,  $N,N$ -( $C_{1-6}$ alkyl) $_2$ amino,  $C_{1-6}$ alkanoylamino,  $N$ -( $C_{1-6}$ alkyl)carbamoyl,  $N,N$ -( $C_{1-6}$ alkyl) $_2$ carbamoyl,  $C_{1-6}$ alkylS(O) $_a$  wherein  $a$  is 0 to 2,  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxycarbonyl,  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxycarbonylamino,  $N$ -( $C_{1-6}$ alkyl)sulphamoyl,  $N,N$ -( $C_{1-6}$ alkyl) $_2$ sulphamoyl,  $C_{1-6}$ alkylsulphonylamino, and  $C_{1-6}$ alkylsulphonyl- $N$ -( $C_{1-6}$ alkyl)amino;  
 $R^6$  is hydrogen or a protecting group; and

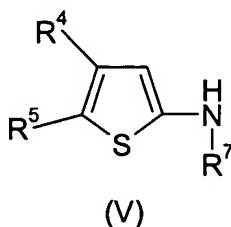
R<sup>7</sup> is a nitrogen protecting group, with a compound of formula (IV)



where L is a leaving group.

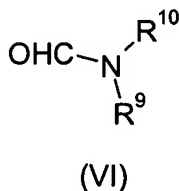
7. (Original) A compound of formula (III) as defined in claim 6.

8. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a compound according to claim 7, which comprises reacting a compound of formula (V)



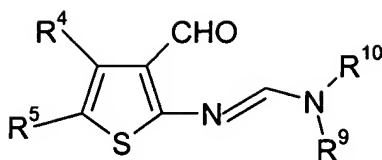
wherein R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> are as defined in claim 1 R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen, halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, ureido, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoyloxy, N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, N,N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>amino, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoylamino, N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)carbamoyl, N,N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>carbamoyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylS(O)<sub>a</sub> wherein a is 0 to 2, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxycarbonylamino, N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)sulphamoyl, N,N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>sulphamoyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylsulphonylamino, and C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylsulphonyl-N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino; and

R<sup>7</sup> is a nitrogen protecting group, with a compound of formula (VI)



where R<sup>9</sup> and R<sup>10</sup> are alkyl groups, in the presence of phosphorus oxychloride.

9. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a compound of formula (III) as defined in claim 6 by reacting a compound of formula (VII)



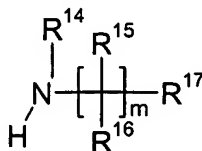
(VII)

wherein  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  are independently selected from hydrogen, halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, ureido,  $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $\text{C}_{2-6}$ alkenyl,  $\text{C}_{2-6}$ alkynyl,  $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkoxy,  $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkanoyl,  $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkanoyloxy,  $N$ -( $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl)amino,  $N,N$ -( $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl) $_2$ amino,  $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkanoylamino,  $N$ -( $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl)carbamoyl,  $N,N$ -( $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl) $_2$ carbamoyl,  $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl $\text{S}(\text{O})_a$  wherein  $a$  is 0 to 2,  $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkoxycarbonyl,  $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkoxycarbonylamino,  $N$ -( $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl)sulphamoyl,  $N,N$ -( $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl) $_2$ sulphamoyl,  $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkylsulphonylamino, and  $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkylsulphonyl- $N$ -( $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl)amino; and are as in claim 1 and  $R^9$  and  $R^{10}$  are alkyl groups as defined in claim 8, with a compound of formula (VIII)



where  $R^7$  is a nitrogen protecting group as defined in claim 1.

10. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula (VII) as defined in claim 9.
11. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, for the production of a second compound of formula (I) where  $R^6$  is hydrogen, and further comprising reacting the a first compound of formula (I) ~~obtained~~ with an amine of formula (XI),



(XI)

where  $R^{14}$  is selected from hydrogen and  $\text{C}_{1-8}$ alkyl[[,]];  $m$  is an integer of from 0 to 4[[,]];

each R<sup>15</sup> is the same or different and is selected from hydrogen, halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, ureido, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>amino, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoylamino, *N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>carbamoyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylS(O)<sub>a</sub> wherein a is 0 to 2, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxycarbonylamino, *N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>sulphamoyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylsulphonylamino, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylsulphonyl-*N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, C<sub>3-8</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>3-8</sub>cycloalkylC<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, aryl, arylC<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, heterocyclic group, and (heterocyclic group)C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl; wherein R<sup>15</sup> may be optionally substituted on carbon ~~by~~ with one or more P groups, ~~selected from P and wherein~~ if said heterocyclic group contains an -NH- moiety, that nitrogen may be optionally substituted ~~by~~ with an R group ~~selected from R~~;

each R<sup>16</sup> is the same or different and is selected from hydrogen and C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl;

R<sup>17</sup> is selected from hydrogen, halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, ureido, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>amino, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoylamino, *N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>carbamoyl, *N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)-*N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy)carbamoyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylS(O)<sub>a</sub> wherein a is 0 to 2, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxycarbonylamino, *N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>sulphamoyl, sulphamoylamino, *N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)sulphamoylamino, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>sulphamoylamino, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylsulphonylamino, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylsulphonylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylsulphonyl-*N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, and a group -E-F-G-H;

~~wherein~~ E and G are independently selected from a direct bond, -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-, -OC(O)-, -C(O)O-, -C(O)-, -NR<sup>a</sup>-, -NR<sup>a</sup>C(O)-, -C(O)NR<sup>a</sup>-, -SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>a</sup>-, -NR<sup>a</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>-, -NR<sup>a</sup>C(O)NR<sup>b</sup>-, -OC(O)NR<sup>a</sup>-, -NR<sup>a</sup>C(O)O-, -NR<sup>a</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>b</sup>-, -SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>a</sup>C(O)-, and -C(O)NR<sup>a</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>-; ~~wherein~~ R<sup>a</sup> and R<sup>b</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen ~~or~~ and C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl which is optionally substituted ~~by~~ with a V group ~~V~~;

F is C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylene optionally substituted by one or more Q or a direct bond;

H is selected from aryl, C<sub>3-8</sub>cycloalkyl, and heterocyclic group; wherein H may be optionally substituted on carbon ~~by~~ with one or more S groups, ~~selected from S and wherein~~ if said heterocyclic group contains an -NH- moiety, that nitrogen may be optionally substituted ~~by~~ with a T group ~~selected from T~~;

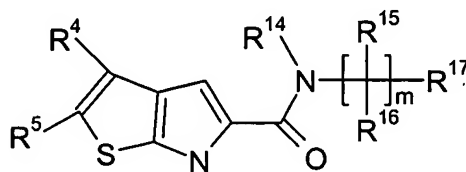
P, S, and Q are independently selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, ureido, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl,

C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>amino, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoylamino, *N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>carbamoyl, *N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)-*N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy)carbamoyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylS(O)<sub>a</sub> wherein a is 0 to 2, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxycarbonylamino, *N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>sulphamoyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylsulphonylamino, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylsulphonyl-*N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, C<sub>3-8</sub>cycloalkyl, aryl, and heterocyclic group; wherein P, S, and Q may be optionally and independently substituted on carbon ~~by~~ with one or more V groups ~~selected from V~~ and ~~wherein~~ if said heterocyclic group contains an -NH- moiety, that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a U group ~~selected from U~~;

V is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoromethyl, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, acetyl, acetoxy, methylamino, ethylamino, dimethylamino, diethylamino, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylamino, acetylamino, *N*-methylcarbamoyl, *N*-ethylcarbamoyl, *N,N*-dimethylcarbamoyl, *N,N*-diethylcarbamoyl, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylcarbamoyl, methylthio, ethylthio, methylsulphinyl, ethylsulphinyl, mesyl, ethylsulphonyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, *N*-methylsulphamoyl, *N*-ethylsulphamoyl, *N,N*-dimethylsulphamoyl, *N,N*-diethylsulphamoyl, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylsulphamoyl, morpholino, morpholinocarbonyl, *N*-benzylcarbamoyl, and 4-hydroxypiperidinocarbonyl;

R, T, and U are independently selected from C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylsulphonyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>carbamoyl, phenyl, benzyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, benzoyl, and phenylsulphonyl; wherein R, T, and U may be optionally and independently substituted on carbon ~~by~~ with one or more V groups ~~selected from V~~;

to produce a compound of formula (XII)



(XII)

where R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>15</sup>, R<sup>16</sup>, R<sup>17</sup>, and m are as defined above, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an *in vivo* hydrolysable ester thereof.